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THE
PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

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Court of HUSTINGS
AND
COMMON HALL

OF THE

Liverymen of the City of LONDON,

At the Late

Election for Lord-Mayor.

With the Speeches of the Right Honourable MICAJAH PERRY, Esq; Alderman HEATHCOTE, and Mr. GLOVER, on very important Subjects.

To which is added,

A Speech intended to be spoke on the Conclusion of Alderman *Heathcote's* Speech relating to an Affair which very much concerns the Honour and Good of this CITY.

By a LIVERYMAN who was present.

Melius est Civitatem, ab Optima Lege, quam ab Optimo Viro, Gubernari.

CATO.

L O N D O N :

Printed for C. CORBET, at *Addison's Head*, against St. Dunstan's Church, *Fleetstreet*, 1739.

OF THE

AND

OF THE

At the late

Election for Lord-Mayor.



... on very important subjects.
German Heatscott, and Mr. Glo-
noble Mr. Perry, and At-
With the Speech of the Right Ho-

Feb 21 1914

"Honour and Good of this City."
 to an Affair which very much concerns the
 Hon of Alderman Westbrook's Speech relating
 A Speech intended to be made on the Conclu-

By a letter from the Secretary of the Navy, dated 18th March 1861, the following information was received:

Office of the Director
U.S. Customs Service

LOWDOWN
CORSET
St. James Church, Richmond, Va.



THE PROCEEDINGS, &c.



THE Liberties and Privileges of the City of *London* have been granted and confirmed to the Citizens by divers Royal Charters, and agreeable to those Charters, (too tedious here to recite) the Liverymen of this City have annually a Right, in Common Hall assembled, to return to the Court of Aldermen, on *Michaelmas* Day, two fit and able Persons, out of whom the Court are to chuse one, whom they are to declare Lord Mayor for the Year ensuing.

By

6 *Proceedings of the*

By the Expression, *fit and able Persons* is to be understood, First, That the Persons in Nomination be Aldermen of *London*. Secondly, That they have served the Office of Sheriff.

THESE are the Qualifications for Candidates for this high Office, an Office of the greatest Trust in the City, an Honour the most exalted that any Citizen by his Brethren can be advanced to.

BUT then these Qualifications are only those that are legal and regular. There are others requisite and necessary, for Instance: That the Persons, tho' legally fit, have not, in any Time or Manner offended, nor acted contrary to the Good of the City, and that they have been at all Times zealous Assertors of the Rights and Privileges of their Fellow Citizens. And this is but a reasonable Qualification, because he who is to be advanced to be the Father of the City, must first of all have, and shew a paternal Affection to the Community over which he is to preside.

THE Right the Citizens have to choose a Mayor will appear by the Royal Charter, which is in these Words:

KNOW Ye, That we have granted, and by this present Charter confirm'd to our Citizens in our City of London, That they may choose to Themselves a Mayor of Themselves e-
very

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very Year, who may be to us Faithful, Discreet, and fit for the Government of the City, so as when he is chosen, he may be presented to Us, or our Justices, if we be not Present, and shall swear to be Faithful to us: And that it shall be lawful at the End of the Year to amove him, and to substitute, or if they will, to retain him still, so that he be Presented to Us, &c.

It is true, that some Years ago, a Custom was begun, and has since been continued of Electing Mayors, in Common-Hall, by (what is now call'd) *Rotation* a Custom pernicious to the Rights and Liberties of the Citizens, and an evil Example to the several Cities and Corporations of the Kingdom in general.

By *Rotation* is understood, That the Senior Aldermen, who has not served the Office of Mayor, is next the Chair, and by that Rule ought to be chosen Mayor for the Year ensuing.

THIS is a novel Custom, a Custom that has had the Sanction of the Court of Aldermen, as, has been pretended for the Peace and Quiet of the City, tho' at the same Time, it is evident it is a seeming-Infringement of the Rights and Liberties of the Liverymen of this City in Common-Hall assembled for the Election of Mayors.

THE great Inconveniences that may arise from giving into this Custom of Electing Mayors of this City by Rotation is easily to be perceiv'd, for by this Means an Enemy to the Constitution of the City, may become as it were the Patron of it. Whereas, all those who are advanced to the Dignity of this high Office, ought to be Men who have distinguished themselves by being arduous Assertors of the Rights of the Citizens in particular, and of the whole Kingdom in general, in as much as this City is the Metropolis thereof, and, as it were, by Example, gives Laws, or Rules, to the Whole.

OF these Requisites and Qualifications, the Citizens, Liverymen of the several Companies of *London* are proper Judges. I say, the Liverymen are Judges; Judges, whether the Candidates proposed to them for Mayor, have acted heretofore for the Good and Benefit of the City, or not, and Judges, whether in this or that Man they may the most securely lodge the Discharge of so great a Trust.

IT is no conclusive Argument, that a Man has served the expensive Office of Sheriff, therefore he is to be elected Mayor; because then if a Man should attain to be Sheriff, in the Year 1739, he must be Mayor, whether he has acted agreeably to the Interest of the City, or not, a few Years after.

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after. No, the Citizens have an undoubted Right, (and which I shall presently shew they have exerted) to chose a Lord Mayor.

A very particular and glorious Instance, of which has lately happened to the great and immortal Honour of the Liverymen of this City.

AND, I humbly presume, that an impartial Account of the Proceedings of the *Court of Hustings and Common Hall of the Liverymen of the City of London*, begun on *Saturday*, the 29th of *September* last, for the Election of a Lord Mayor for the Year ensuing, will be acceptable to the Reader.

ABOUT Twelve o'Clock at Noon, my Lord Mayor and Aldermen came to *St. Laurence's Church*, and heard a Sermon from these Words of *St. Paul*, *Be ye kindly affectioned one to another, with brotherly Love*. After which they returned to *Guild-Hall*, and between One and Two o'Clock, the Right Honourable MICAJAH PERRY, Esq; open'd the Court, when Sir *John Thompson*, Knt. Recorder of the City, made a Speech to the *Common Hall*, in which he told the Citizens, " That it was
" their undoubted Right to return to the
" Court of Aldermen, two fit and able
" Persons of that Court, who had served
" the Office of Sheriff, out of whom they
B " were

“ were to chose one of them, to be Lord
 “ Mayor for the Year ensuing, and that he
 “ would not take upon him to dictate to
 “ them, in their present Choice, well-
 “ knowing their Prudence would direct
 “ them, to act in the best Manner for the
 “ Good, Peace, and Welfare of this great
 “ City.

AFTER which, the Lord Mayor and Aldermen withdrew into the *Council Chamber*, and soon after the Sheriffs began the Election. The Aldermen in Nomination were, *Sir Harcourt Masters, Knt. Richard Levett, Esq; Sir George Champion, Knt, Sir John Salter, Knt. Sir Robert Godschall, Knt. &c.*

UPON holding up of Hands, the Sheriffs declared *Sir John Salter, Knt. and Sir Robert Godschall, Knt.* duly returned to the Court of Aldermen.

THEN a Poll was demanded in Behalf of *Sir George Champion, Knt. Alderman*, next the Chair, which was granted, and the Poll began at Four o’Clock that Afternoon, but held but Half an Hour, when *Sir George* sent a Letter to Alderman *Heathcote*, one of the Sheriffs, which was read, and is as follows :

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To the worthy Liverymen of the City of
LONDON.

GENTLEMEN,

THE favourable Reception you gave to my Address to you on the 22^d Instant, and the great Concourse of eminent Citizens that met at the *Crown Tavern* the *Tuesday* following in my Support, gave me great and encouraging Hopes that my Approach to the Chair of the chief Magistracy, as Senior Alderman below it, would not have been obstructed in the Manner I have found; but perceiving, that contrary to the Hopes I had entertained of a more calm Disposition, I could not withstand the present Opposition formed against me, without occasioning great Hardships and Sufferings to Individuals, as well as a mischievous Convulsion to the whole Community, I determin'd, for the Peace and Quiet of the City, to persevere no longer, and to decline the Poll demanded in my Favour.

I beg, therefore, those Gentlemen who have so readily and heartily appear'd in my Behalf, to accept my humble Thanks, and sincere Acknowledgments of the Obligation they have conferr'd on me; and, I hope, this Resignation, which I have shewn

in Tenderneſs to the general Happineſs and Welfare of my Fellow Citizens, will be acceptable to all. I am,

Gentlemen,

St. Clem. Lane,

Sat. Evening,

29 Sept. 1739.

Your Humble Servant,

George Champion.

THEN the Sheriffs adjourned the Court of Huſtings till *Monday* Eleven o'Clock in the Forenoon, when they held a Court by Adjournment, and declared the Numbers upon the Poll to be as follows :

For Sir *Robert Godſhall*, Knt. 95

Sir *John Salter*, Knt. 90

Sir *George Champion*, Knt. 23

And for Want of a ſufficient Number of Aldermen to make a Court, the Common Hall was further adjourned to the next Day.

MR. *Glover* addreſſed himſelf to the Sheriffs to the Effect following :

Mr. Ald. Heathcote and Sir J. Lequeſne,

THE Worthy Liverymen of this City, here aſſembled before you, have now ſet aſide, in all Probability irrevocably and per-

perpetually set aside, one Candidate from the Honourable and Powerful Office of Lord Mayor of this great Metropolis. The Reasons of this Proceeding, must to every impartial Citizen, appear obvious and incontestable, being founded on that just Indignation which it becomes every true *Englishman* at this Time to entertain at the many Disgraces, Barbarities and Insults, which have been suffer'd to fall upon his Country from a Nation esteem'd in all preceeding Times as the Object of our Contempt, and whose Insolence we have as often reduced and humbled, as we have exerted our Power. But still this Proceeding, begun and pursu'd with so much Spirit, conducted with so much Discretion and Decency, where the Peace and good Order of this Great City have been consulted with as much Caution, as the principal Purpose itself has been supported with Resolution and Vigour; I say, this very Proceeding may be liable to the Censure of Abruptness and Inconsistency, if the same Motives which have influenced our Conduct in the Election of our Mayor, do not now create the same Unanimity to pay our most grateful Acknowledgments to our Four Worthy Representatives in Parliament, for their steady and faithful Adherence to all our Rights, for their vigorous Support of our Trade in particular, and of the Honour

nour of this Kingdom in general, by their Opposition in the House of Commons to the late Convention with *Spain*. Our Instructions should likewise accompany our Thanks, that the Tenour of our Conduct may appear to be consistent and uniform throughout. For this Purpose, I have received this Paper from several Gentlemen of the highest Consideration and Character in this City, who know, that it was at their particular and most earnest Entreaty, that I have taken upon me to make the following Motion, though from the Propriety of the Thing itself, I hope I should otherwise stand excused: I therefore humbly move that this Paper may be read; and if, as I doubt not, it obtains the Approbation of this Assembly, that you, Gentlemen, our Worthy Sheriffs may be desired to present Copies of it to the Right Honourable *Micajah Perry*, Esq; Lord Mayor, to *Humphry Parsons*, Esq; Alderman, to Sir *John Barnard*, Knt. and Alderman, and to *Robert Willimot*, Esq; our four Representatives in Parliament.

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*To the Right Hon. Micajah Perry, Esq;
Lord Mayor,
Humphry Parsons, Esq; Alderman,
Sir John Barnard, Knt. Ald. and
Robert Willimot, Esq; Alderman,*

*Representatives of the City of London in this
present Parliament,*

WE the Liverymen of the City of London, in Common Hall assembled, in order to exert our undoubted Right of Electing two proper Persons to be return'd to the Court of Aldermen for the Year ensuing, should be wanting both to you and ourselves, if, whilst we are shewing a just Resentment by setting aside one Person, whose Conduct we disapprove, and whom we judge unworthy of that high and honourable Office, we did not take the some Opportunity of returning you our sincere and hearty Thanks for your general Conduct in Parliament; and in a more particular Manner for your late Endeavours to preserve us from the ruinous Consequences we then too justly apprehended from the Convention with *Spain*.

AND, tho' neither your Endeavours at that Time, nor the Interposition of this City, had the desired Effect, yet every Man in this Nation must be now fully convinc'd
of

of the Dishonour, as well as Danger, of that fatal Treaty.

WE are now made deeply sensible of the unhappy State of this Kingdom, from the imminent Mischiefs which seem to threaten us from Abroad; and it is with great Grief we observe our excellent Constitution declining in some Instances at Home: But when the true Spirit and Vigour of a *British* Parliament shall exert itself, we promise ourselves, that, with the Divine Assistance we shall be equally preserved from the Dangers of both.

IN a free and uncorrupted Assembly of our Representatives consists not only the Dignity, but even the Character and Essence of a Parliament. It is of the highest Importance, that those, whom we intrust with an unrestrain'd Power of making all Laws, affecting our Trade, Properties and Lives, should be uninfluenc'd by any lucrative Considerations; and yet, notwithstanding several good Laws have been made to secure the Independency of the House of Commons, how insecure must that great Blessing be, from the Number of Placemen who have already got Footing there, and who may be augmented hereafter by many more.

It is therefore, as we apprehend, absolutely necessary, that some new and more effectual Provision should be made to reduce

duce and limit their Number ; and we require and insist, that you would use your utmost Endeavours to promote a Bill for that salutary Purpose, in Conjunction with such *Patriots* as may be willing to join with you, and assist you in this great and necessary Work.

As the Nation has on many Occasions found the happy Effects of applying to their respective Representatives, and giving them proper Instructions in Cases of great Consequence, as in particular with Regard to the late pernicious Excise Scheme, which was calculated for the Destruction of the Liberties of this Nation, which vile Attempt was by these Means defeated, so we are willing to entertain the least Doubt of meeting with the same Success on this Occasion : And as this is a Point on which the very Being of Parliaments, and the Prosperity of this Kingdom so absolutely depends, we once more earnestly require you to make it a previous Step to the passing of any Money-Bill whatsoever.

THIS Paper being read, and unanimously approved of by the Common Hall, was presented by the Sheriffs to the Four City Members.

MR. Sheriff *Heathcote* deliver'd his Opinion in a very pathetick Manner, with Regard to the Negative Voice of the Court

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of Aldermen, and assured the Common Hall that he would enlarge on that Subject the following Day.

THE Citizens expressed the greatest Pleasure at the candid and just Behaviour of the Sheriffs on this Occasion, and return'd them their Thanks, and likewise to Mr. Glover for his Motion.

ON *Tuesday*, about Twelve o'Clock, the Right Honourable the Lord Mayor, attended by the Sheriffs, came from *Haberdashers Hall*, his Lordship's Mansion House, to the Chappel, adjoining to *Guild-Hall*, and, after Divine Service was ended, went into the Council Chamber, and held a Court, at which were present Nineteen Aldermen, and remained there above an Hour and an Half; mean while the Hall filled, and various were the Conjectures of the Liverymen about the Declaration; some thinking, that as Sir *Robert Godschall*, Kt. had the Majority on the Poll, he would be declared; others, that Sir *John Saker*, Kt. would, as being the Senior Alderman of the two return'd to the Court by the Common Hall, in Order, as near as possible, to keep up to the Method of *Rotation*: And, whatever might be the Subject of the Debates in the Court of Aldermen, it seem'd to me to be the unanimous Opinion and Desire of the Liverymen, that they should

should declare Sir *John Salter*, Knt. Lord Mayor for the Year ensuing. For which they gave three very good Reasons: First, That they had no Reason to set him aside from the Seat of the chief Magistracy of this City, who had always behaved himself worthy of that Dignity. The second was, That the setting aside Sir *George Champion*, was not a Party Matter, or Picque, it was because he had acted, in the House of Commons, contrary to the true Interest of this City and Kingdom in Relation to the Convention with *Spain*. The third was, That they proposed to themselves, at the next Election, to have Sir *Robert Godschall*, Kt. declared Lord Mayor, promising themselves, by this Means, a happy Opportunity, of an uninfluenced Election, at the next Choice of Representatives in Parliament for this great City. These were the Sentiments of the Liverymen then present, and we may suppose, that this is the general Opinion of the whole Body of the Livery.

About Two o'Clock, the Lord Mayor and Aldermen ascended the Hustings, and declared, Sir *John Salter*, Knt. Alderman, Lord Mayor of the City of *London* for the Year ensuing. Which was approved of by the Citizens with the loudest Acclamations, it being one of the most nu-

merous Assemblies that ever was seen on the like Occasion.

MR. *Hill* then addressed himself to the Lord Mayor, and moved, That the Thanks of the Common Hall be given to the Four Worthy Representatives of this City for their Endeavours in the last Session of Parliament, in order to prevent the late Convention with *Spain*, and desired, in Behalf of himself and others present, who had engaged him to make the Motion, that the Question might be put. The Court would not grant it, and the Lord Mayor order'd the Court to be adjourned, as it were, in Haste: But before that could be done, Alderman *Heatcote*, one of the present Sheriffs, addressed himself to his Lordship in Words to this Effect:

My LORD,

I CRAVE Your Lordship's Patience a little longer, it is a Matter in which the Rights and Liberties of my Fellow Citizens are deeply concerned, and I have a Right to speak, and must speak, and I hope, these are sufficient Reasons for my taking up, at this Juncture, a few Moments of Your Lordship's Time.

I move, my Lord, That our Four Worthy Representatives be desired by the Common

mon Hall to endeavour, in the next Sessions of Parliament, the Repeal of a Clause of an Act, intituled, *An Act for the better Regulating Elections in the City of London, &c.* where, among other Things, it is said, *And be it enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That from and after the Twenty fourth Day of June, in this present Year, (1722) that the Common Council of the City of London, assembled, shall not make Laws, or other Proceedings, for the Government of the said City, without the Consent of the Court of Aldermen, or the major Part of them.* My Lord, I desire that the Question may be put, by the Common Crier, or Common Sergeant.

WHICH Motion was seconded by the General Voice of the Common Hall, who loudly called out for the Question. Upon which, the Right Honourable *Micajah Perry, Esq;* Lord Mayor, arose from his Seat, and, coming forward upon the Hustings, spoke to the Citizens, in Words, to this Effect:

Gentlemen,

THIS Thing is quite new to Me, nor can you expect Me to be ready to give you My Reasons why I will not have the

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the Question put; only, that I do not remember a Precedent of this Nature, and I beg, Gentlemen, that this Affair may be deferred to a more convenient Opportunity.

Then his Lordship seated himself, and Alderman *Heathcote*, begged of his Lordship to fix the Time, and to declare it then to the Citizens, when the Question should be put, and to adjourn the Court over to that Day.

His Lordship did not seem willing to do this, which made the Hall incessantly call out for the Question. And, after some Time, his Lordship came forwards to the Citizens, and made a Speech to this Effect

which I have been told by the Voice of the Common Hall, who loudly called out for the Question. Upon which, the Right Honourable

Gentlemen,

I HAVE called to my Assistance Your Deputy Recorder, your Recorder (Sir *William Thompson*) not being present, Your Common Sergeant, and other Officers, and have made Enquiry of them, whether there is a Precedent for this present Method of Procedure, and they all agree, that there is no such like Instance of putting Questions here in the Common Hall.

Gentlemen,

Gentlemen, I have heard Your Desire, and, let me beg of You to drop the Question, and I assure You, upon My Honour, that I will take Care, that Your Request shall be considered, in a short Time, and in a more proper Place.

Gentlemen, You have intrusted Me with Your Rights and Privileges, You have advanced Me to the greatest Honour and Dignity in this City You can confer on Me, and I flatter Myself I have behaved to the General Satisfaction of You My Fellow Citizens. I have always studied Your Interest and the Good of this City has ever been at My Heart. And I will not be wanting to serve You in any Thing that shall be thought conducive to the Good of this City. The only Thing I desire is, That, as the Time approaches, when I must deliver up that high Trust, you have intrusted Me with, I may convey to My Successor, the Constitution of this City in the same Manner I receiv'd it from My Worthy Predecessor.

UPON the Conclusion of His Lordship's Speech, the Liverymen seemed to be somewhat satisfied, and did not now, as before, so generally call out for the Question. Alderman *Heatbroke* addressed himself to the Common Hall in a Speech to this Effect :

Gentlemen,

Gentlemen,

I Have the Honour to be personally acquainted with His Lordship, and to be a Member of that Honourable House, in which His Lordship is one of Your Representatives, and I do solemnly affirm, that His Lordship, has always in that House strenuously asserted the Rights and Liberties of this City in particular, and of this Kingdom in general, and, I am certain, that there never was one Person, in whom you have intrusted Your Liberties in the Quality of Your Representative and Mayor that more deserves Your Esteem, and the Continuance of it, than His Lordship.

Gentlemen, His Lordship has now given Us his Word, that He will shortly take Our Request into Consideration, and no one here present can with Justice, in the least, question the Honour and Veracity of His Lordship. And, Gentlemen, in my Opinion, I see no Difference, if we obtain the End proposed, whether it is done by a Question, at this Time, or through the future Endeavours of His Lordship. His Lordship now plainly sees, that the Subject of the Motion I have made is Your Desire, and tho' he cannot grant the Question, his Lordship is no Enemy to the Thing itself:

But

But suppose, His Lordship should take no Measures towards obtaining Our Desire, (though I will pawn my Honour his Lordship will, as He has said it) We shall this Time Twelvemonth have an Opportunity of putting the Question. And, therefore, Gentlemen, upon the Whole, we may safely at this Time drop the Question, nay, We ought, We are in Duty bound to grant His Lordship's Request, when no great Inconveniency can by deferring it to His Lordship's Consideration accrue therefrom.

AND now I will make one Observation upon what his Lordship has said, His Lordship thinks this Motion novel, and says it is unprecedented, suppose so, I believe it is to His Lordship, but because it is novel, does it therefore follow that it is not just, or because it is unprecedented, therefore it is unreasonable and unseasonable: No, tho' it is unprecedented it is reasonable, and it is just, tho' new to his Lordship.

Gentlemen, I beg Leave to give You my Reasons why I have made this Motion, and thereby justify my Conduct herein before His Lordship and You my Fellow Citizens.

THE first is, That by the Repeal of the Negative Power of the Court of Aldermen on the Proceedings of Your Common Council, may be prevented the Ruin

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and Destruction of this City, least when it is too late, we may strive in vain, or the old *English* Proverb be verified in Us, *When the Steed is stole, we shut the Stable Door.*

ANOTHER Reason is, Because it renders Your Common Council in a Manner useless, I will give an Instance of it: Upon signing the Convention, Your Common Council voted a Petition to be presented to the Parliament, and another to the King, on the State of the Nation. Which, the Court of Aldermen, by Virtue of the Power lodged in them, by an Act of Parliament, put their Negative upon; by which Means those Proceedings of Your Common Council which would have been an Honour to the City, and open'd the Eyes of the People are thereby lost to the Publick.

My third and last Reason that has induced me to make this Motion, is, That there may arise in this Nation a wicked Ministry, who may corrupt, I do not say now, but in future Time, by Pensions and Places, Fourteen of the Twenty-six Aldermen. I say, When this is the Case, whatever shall be proposed by Your Common Council for the Good of this City, and should happen to be contrary to the Interests of such wicked Ministry, Fourteen of Your Aldermen are empowered to put a Negative upon the Proceeding. So that it may
come

come to pass, if this Power be not restrained, that nothing will be transacted in the City, but what must be agreeable to the Court.

These are my Reasons, which I offer to justify myself, and which I submit to the Judgment of His Lordship, and all my Fellow-Citizens.

ALL which was approved of by the repeated Acclamations of the Common Hall. When the Silence was obtain'd, the Common Crier, by Order of the Lord Mayor, adjourn'd the Court till a fresh Summons.

I HAD the Curiosity, after the Aldermen had left the Hustings, (though I had been upon the Hustings, within ten Yards of the Speakers, during the whole Debate) to stay and hear my Brethren the Liverymen talk about this great Event, and the Excellency of the Speech of Alderman *Heathcote*, and meeting with two of my particular Acquaintance we joined some others, about Twelve, and went to refresh ourselves with a Glass at the *Crown Tavern* in *Kings-street*. I sat and diverted myself with hearing the Company talk. One said, he wish'd the Question had been put: Another, that as it was, he thought, it was full as well: All agreed, that the Motion was good and seasonable. Soon after this,

Gentleman, whom the Company called, Mr. Common Council Man, observed to the Company, the Judgment and Sagacity of the present Lord Mayor: I will give you, said he, the Reasons, which, I believe, induced him to act as he has. He knew well, if he should bring up the Custom of putting Questions to the Common Hall it might introduce great Confusions, Tumults, and Debates among the Citizens. Nay, he foresaw that this would, like a Torrent break in upon the Order, Decency, Quiet, Peace and Tranquillity of this City, for, he knew, if once Questions were put, a Poll might be demanded on such Questions, and what a Scene of Trouble and Disorder would this bring in upon us. Besides, if you make Laws, and propose Questions in Common Hall, you will render your Common Council of no Use. His Lordship has made a noble Stand, and I must applaud him for it. All present seemed to acquiesce in his Sentiments of his Lordship's Conduct and Judgment. He then told the Company he would entertain them with the Repetition of a Speech intended to be spoke on the Conclusion of Alderman *Heatbeone's* Speech, and of which he had obtained a Copy, and read it to Us, and is as follows;

Court of Hustings, &c.

My LORD,

YOUR Lordship has been troubled with a long Debate, in which I am heartily glad to see that your Lordship's Judgment has at last prevail'd upon the worthy Liverymen of this City not to insist upon the Question proposed by that worthy Gentleman, not, my Lord, that the Motion made by that Gentleman is repugnant to my Sentiments, it is a Motion I applaud, it is an Affair, I think, that Justice and the Liberties of this City demand to be taken into Consideration by your Lordship and your worthy Brethren; but, as your Lordship justly observed no Precedent could be found of such a Procedure in the Common Hall of this City, and that therefore the Desire should more properly be taken into Consideration in future time, and in a more proper Place.

What I have to lay before your Lordship and your worthy Brethren the Aldermen is not by way of Motion, but by Way of Address. The Motion made by that worthy Gentleman is relating, my Lord, to a trifling Affair, when compared to what I am now about to advance. His, my Lord, is a Grievance, that has affected this City but a Day, mine is one that has affected it Ages. His springs from the Year 1722, but mine
takes

Proceedings of the

takes Root long before the Conquest. His is a Burden, my Lord, scarce felt, mine one that we have groaned under near a Thousand Years. His, my Lord, a Grievance that has not as yet injured the Citizens, mine a Grievance that has and does continue to pester them daily. It arises, my Lord, from the privileged Places within your Lordship's City and the Liberties thereof.

My Lord, it deserves the Consideration of Your Lordship and your worthy Brethren, because these are Inroadments, and very grievous ones too, on the Rights and Liberties of the Citizens, and my Lord, they are not content with the Bounds of their several Liberties, but do continually endeavour to enlarge them by claiming and taking away Houses from the Freedom.

To what End, my Lord, do the Citizens pass through a long Servitude, and afterwards hazard their Fortunes in Trade, and support the Dignity of this City, when those who have served no Apprenticeships, and who undersell the Free Trader, can open Shop, exercise their several Arts, and vend their Merchandizes in the City, yea, in the very Heart of it.

It, my Lord, any of these privileged Places are upheld by Royal Charters, and the Ground upon which they stand was taken from the City, (which I am sure is the

the very Case) and granted for Pious Uses, Application ought to be made to the Throne for the Restoration of them to the City.

BUT this I shall submit to Your Lordship, and your worthy Brethren the Aldermen, in your superior Judgments, to find out a Way to put an End to their pretended (as I imagine) Exemption from Your Lordship's Jurisdiction, and from the Freedom of this City.

It was, with great Difficulty, I got a Copy of this, but, upon my promising to write three Copies for three Gentlemen then present, I had the Favour of transcribing a fourth for myself, and have given it my Reader faithfully.

To conclude, The noble Stand the Citizens have, at this Time, made, will shew to Posterity how tenacious their Ancestors have been of their Rights and Liberties, and declare to the whole World the Sensibility they now have of the many Injuries they do sustain from the Insults of a haughty foreign Power, and shew, that it is the Height of their Ambition, to revenge their own and their Country's Wrong.

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ed (as I imagine) Exemption from Your
Lordship's Jurisdiction, and from the Free-
dom of this City.

It was, with great Difficulty, I got a
Copy of this, but upon my promising to
write three Copies three Gentlemen
then present, I had reason of transcrib-
ing a fourth for myself, and have given
it my Reader faithfully.



To conclude, The noble Stand the Ci-
tizens have, at this Time, made, will shew
to Posterity how tenacious their Ancestors
have been of their Rights and Liberties,
and declare to the whole World the Sen-
timents they now have of the many Injuries
they do sustain from the Insults of a hang-
ing foreign Power, and shew that it is the
Right of their Ambition, to revenge their
own and their Country's Wrong.

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